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Stentor

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# Lake Forest College Stentor, March 24, 2011

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# The Stentor

VOL 126, № 19

March 24, 2011

*Publishing since 1887*

## THIS WEEK IN THE STENTOR:

- > CRISIS IN JAPAN
- > IRISH CULTURAL EVENTS
- > DIRECTOR JOHN WATERS COMES TO CAMPUS
- > A PROFILE OF PRIDE



## News

### The John Waters Interviews: He was wise, witty, observant, and happy to talk to us!

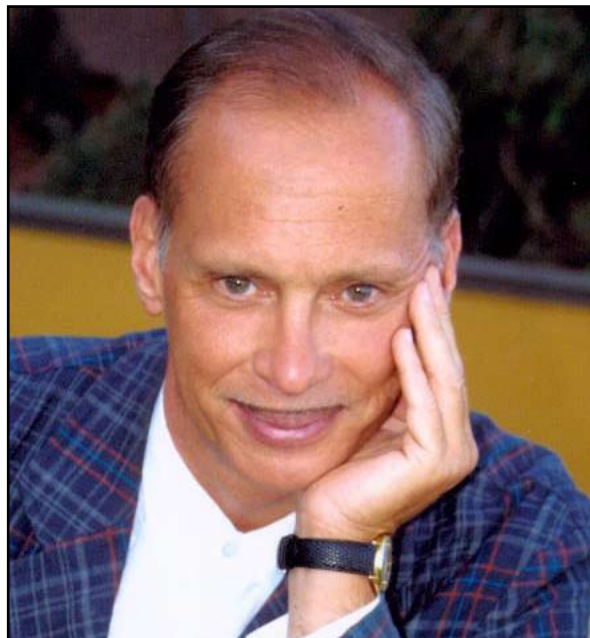


Photo courtesy of John Waters

From *John Waters: The Man Behind the Camera*

**LILLIAN DYPOLD**  
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Following my article previewing the John Waters Film Festival, which was printed earlier in the year, Professor Elizabeth Benacka, who teaches the course “John Waters and American Culture”, offered to give *The Stentor* access to the recordings of phone interviews with John Waters. The first interview was conducted by Nonie Carson '12 on March 4, 2011. The second interview transpired on March 14, 2011 between Professor David

Schneiderman and Waters. Both interviews covered a surprising variety of topics, with each interviewer asking progressively more probing questions and John Waters responding with ever more engaging answers.

For the first interview, before Ms. Carson could even get a full sentence out, Mr. Waters interrupted her to say that it is “both alarming and ironic that there is a class being taught about me since I got thrown out of every school I ever went to...” This eagerness to make statements before a question had even been asked seemed to continue throughout the interview.

One could imagine Waters seemingly overflowing with excitement and energy—a fitting picture for a man who has done so much and has left his mark on nearly every artistic discipline, whether directly or indirectly.

Ms. Carson asked Mr. Waters about the highlights of his career, asking specifically about the success

of *Hairspray*, to which Waters exclaimed, “Boy, you never know when you have a good idea!” He explained that *Hairspray* was “oddly commercial” saying, “Middle America didn’t realize that I made a movie where they were rooting for two men to sing a love song to each other, or to have a movie that encourages your teenage daughter to date interracially”. *Hairspray* continues to be performed as a musical today and Mr. Waters noted one performance where Tracy, known as the fat, white girl, was played by a “thin black girl”.

On the topic of his expectations for his films, Waters explained that he’s learned to be a “guarded optimist, to think that good things can happen”. Although he always hopes for the best, he says, “I know that things can go bad—I’m not a fool”.

Presumably, he learned this lesson early on, as his films were met with little success in his first years in the business. He admitted, laughing, that no one liked him for the first ten years. “I never got one good review or anything” and the people that did come were “minorities that didn’t even fit in their own minority”. These first films were about standing up to the “tyranny of good taste”.

His early influences, Carson noted, were, to name a few, “the Wizard of Oz, the horror films of William Castle, and the seedy side of Baltimore during your youth”. Waters added to this list Walt Disney, LSD (when he took it it wasn’t yet illegal), and his insatiable curiosity for people saying, “my main influence has always been my great interest in people’s behavior and their personality and watching people that think they’re normal and see how insane they are. People that try to be insane are kind of normal...I’m never bored...I don’t understand how anyone

could ever be bored unless they’re blind...nobody’s normal, and as long as you realize that, you can get through life...you just can’t judge other people without knowing what caused them to act the way they do...and there is no fair answer to it.”

Carson and Waters also ventured into film theory, the present state of the film industry, and the future for films. Carson asked Waters if he felt that Camp, a genre Waters is said to have pioneered, is still

in the last forty...I can’t go back and make them like I did when I was 18 [and I don’t want to]”. Regarding Hollywood, Waters said they’re looking “to spend millions of dollars to make a movie that looks like it cost three cents,” and they say they want outrageous and cutting edge, but, of course, as soon as you give it to them, they back out. And regarding movies that seemed defined by their special effects, Water proclaimed, “It’s not even a movie anymore

it to JEW, which is really embarrassing sometimes”.

Schneiderman probed into Waters private life briefly, and Waters offered up, “I’ve never had a boyfriend that was in show business [and I don’t think I ever will]”. Waters explained that his work “is about observing people’s behavior”, and he already knows how people in show business act.

Regarding his fame, Waters admitted that there are certainly people that only know him for one small part of his work, but that, “As long as all the different types of people in America know me for one thing, then I always have a job”.

The one artistic area which seems to be untouched by Waters is the world of literary fiction, but Waters said that he thinks a novel is “one of the hardest things to wraers is careful not to waste his time reading bad books, and he refused to give any comment on the bad books he has read because “I learned a long time ago, my place is to praise things that other people don’t like. As soon as I say something bad about someone, I’ll be seated next to them at a dinner, and they’ve read it”.

He did, however, critique Ryan Gosling for dismissing scripts. Waters said, “If I change [the dialogue], it’s in rehearsal...I always have a week of rehearsal...I do want the words to be said how I wrote them”.

Like he did with Carson, Waters offered some final advice to Schneiderman: “Don’t ever write a letter to a bad review...I learned a long time ago, only an amateur answers his critics. Read the bad ones once, the good ones twice, then put them all away and never look at them again”. Wise words to live by for any person who knows what their goals are and won’t let anything stop them.

“I’ve never had a boyfriend that was in show business [and I don’t think I ever will]”. Waters explained that his work “is about observing people’s behavior”, and he already knows how people in show business act.

a relevant style, to which Waters adamantly responded, “No. I think no one says the word camp anymore, unless you’re an...old man in an antique shop talking about Rita Hayworth movies to your gay friend...To me, camp became trash...camp was something so bad it was good...Trash was something that was purposely so bad it was good, and then it became filth”. Eventually Camp, especially popular with gay audiences, lost its edge. “All the things that were meant to be shocking [are not shocking anymore]”. Waters proclaimed that now “the gay world is straighter than the straight world in some aspects...It’s not a hidden world anymore...It’s a world that in rich kids’ schools is completely accepted, and...in poor kids’ schools is not”. When asked if he was working on any movies currently, he said that he has plans for a John Waters Christmas movie, but that the independent film world has changed more in the last three years “than it ever has

it’s a science project!”

In the final moments of the interview, Waters proclaimed that Carson and other young and beautiful people ought to start dressing in faux old—“Shading in male pattern baldness.” After the interview, Carson noted, “I was very excited to get the opportunity to interview such a colorful and celebrated film director. I was surprised at how thoughtful and insightful his answers were regarding his own work and other popular texts. The interview is not something I will soon forget.”

In an equally engaging interview conducted by Professor Davis Schneiderman on March 14, 2011, Mr. Waters and Professor Schneiderman repeatedly exchanged anecdotes, and the piece seemed at times more like a conversation between friends than an interview. In one comical moment Waters explained, “Whenever I write on my Blackberry in e-mail and I sign it ‘Best, JW’ it corrects

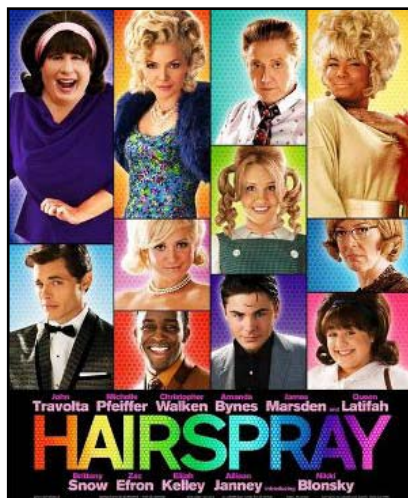


Photo courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures



## Tragedy in Japan affects Lake Forest College students

NIKKI YEOMANS  
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While many students were enjoying sunny weather and spending time with family and friends over Spring Break, Chiaki Ueda was in her hometown of Osaka, Japan experiencing what has unfolded to be one of the worst disasters in the nation's recent history. On Friday March 11th, a 9.2 magnitude earthquake shook the north-eastern Tohoku region of Japan, sending tsunami waves of up to 33 feet into cities. There are now over 18,000 confirmed fatalities, with thousands more injured and up to 14,000 confirmed missing people. What has been most worrisome to other nations and many in Japan is the destruction of the Fukushima I Nuclear Power Plant that has released radiation levels 1,000 times the normal levels, levels dwarfed only by the Chernobyl disaster.

Though south of the tsunami's reach and ra-

because the phone services were busy all the time, but [in the] end I could contact my family". Ueda did not lose any family but Mat-

in touch with them after a week of trying; he eventually accounted for all family members. Unfortunately, many still have not been

government will do much to rebuild Japan and stand with Japan as it has since the end of World War II.

Cunliffe informs that at Lake Forest the International Student Organization will hold fundraisers for Japan in the upcoming weeks. Last Saturday, there was a choral concert in the Lily Reid Holt Memorial Chapel that was dedicated to Japan. Ueda is also planning on holding a fundraising event through her internship with the Japan America Society for Chicago and in the mean time can be reached at uedac@lakeforest.edu for individual contributions. "It is so hard to see

what is going on in my country now," Ueda said. "But we never give up".

*Editors' Note:* According to Yahoo! News, these organizations are working on relief and recovery in the region: the American Red Cross, Global-Giving, Save the Children, the Salvation Army, Ameri-cares, the International Medical Corps, and ShelterBox.



Photo courtesy of U.S. Navy Mass Communication Specialist  
3rd Class Dylan McCord

Japanese relief workers delivering supplies from U.S. helicopter crew

thew Heywood-Cunliffe '13, who spent time with a host family his freshman year of high school, received news that his

able to get in touch with loved ones. Despite the uncertainty, the results of the disaster were felt none the less. "It was hard to look at the pictures of places I'd been. It's like looking at your own hometown being gone. It's still very upsetting".

There is much turmoil in Japan at the moment, and internationally many people are primarily concerned with the repercussions from the nuclear power and radiation levels. "First, we have to save as many people as possible. There are so many people who are still waiting to be rescued. I strongly believe that we can recover from what we are now. But in order to recover, Japan needs help from other countries," describes Ueda. Cunliffe believes the United States

**“It was hard to look at the pictures of places I'd been. It's like looking at your own hometown being gone. It's still very upsetting.**

**- Matthew Cunliffe '13**

diation evacuations, Ueda felt the immediate effects of the earthquake. "I could feel that the building was shaking for like 3 minutes; maybe shorter than that but I was scared so it seemed long," she details. For many around the world, it took a long time to get in touch with family members in Japan as the land lines were down and overwhelmed with calls. Of getting in touch with her family Ueda said, "It was hard

host mother's sister died during the blow to Japan.

Mr. Cunliffe spent seven months in Tokyo and surrounding areas that were not directly affected by the tsunami, but had visited his deceased host aunt in her town of Natori, which was completely destroyed by the tsunami. He was very worried for some time as it was difficult for him to get in touch with his host family, but like Ueda was lucky enough to get

## Alternative TOGA: NOGA

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On Saturday night, North Campus residence halls provided an alternative to the popular Toga event. Instead of attending the Roman-themed all-campus party, many students chose to unwind after a busy week from the comfort of their own residence halls. NOGA was geared toward getting fun-seeking students who wanted to enjoy themselves in an alcohol-free environment out of their rooms and into the community. For students who chose to attend NOGA, there were two different options. Many students went back and forth between the two events, as both were largely popular with North Campus residents.

"High-tech" NOGA was held in Deerpath residence hall. In addition to a surplus of snacks and pizza, music and videogames were also provided for entertainment. Alternatively, students had the option to attend NOGA Classic. This event, held in Lois Residence Hall, featured a variety of events including board games, imi-

tation martinis, free pizza, and an assortment of snacks. This event was sponsored by Res Life and the building's RA's. According to Kelsey Parks '11, who organized much of the event, "Not everyone can find enjoyment in an event like Toga, but you can bet your bottom we all have enjoyment for some game. There's nothing more satisfying than convincing a group of people that carrying frozen mice in your pocket is illegal in some obscure town... and getting points for it."

It seems the only qualm posed after NOGA was the poor advertising that preceded it. Due to the lack of publicity on South and Middle, the majority of the students who attended were from North Campus. Generally speaking, however, the students who made an appearance at the event looked upon their night favorably. "I attended Lois' NOGA event. Even though there weren't a lot of people there, I had a really good time," commented Samme Van Kollenburg '14, a Lois resident, "It was a really comfortable, energetic, and intimate atmosphere."

The Lake Forest College  
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## News

# Club Profile: Everything you need to know about PRIDE

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Before I begin my discourse on the PRIDE Organization of Lake Forest College, I would like to clarify one thing: this organization is not explicitly for gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the College community.

People have often expressed concerns about this stigma or expressed general disinterest in the group because of it. So, as someone interested in the public relations of PRIDE, I feel it is my obligation to inform the campus that we accept members of every sexuality and sexual identity. In fact, it is written in our mission statement that "[PRIDE] envisions a Lake Forest College that fully accepts all people, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender expression or identity." With the variety of changes being made to PRIDE since last semester (such as the reorganization of the Executive Board and the increase in programming), the organization is looking toward the future. What the Executive Board has envisioned for next year may very well exceed what the organization has done thus far, and we hope that the entire Student Body will want to be involved.

### Coming Out Week

The fall semester brought a new series of programming from PRIDE, beginning with the First Annual "Coming Out Week." The "Coming Out Day" that the organization has sponsored in the past inspired this week of events, which included a panel discussion and a performance from Oshkosh musician Nicole Rae. "Coming Out Week" is an event that the Organization hopes will grow in the

future – next year, we hope to bring in the slam poet Staceyann Chin as well as musical performances and more panels.

### First Annual Transgender Awareness Week

While we hope to increase our membership,

the Chicago transgender community and more focus-oriented discussions in our general meeting, in which we discussed gender roles and social norms. Throughout the Mohr Student Center, there was a "statistics blitz," where various statistics about the

transgender community.

### First Annual HIV/AIDS Awareness Week

By branching off from World AIDS Day on December 1st, PRIDE formed the "Front for HIV/AIDS Awareness", a collaborative effort

of 9 campus

organizations to better inform the campus of the world's HIV/AIDS issues. Together, we organized a week of programming, which included HIV testing with the Health and Wellness Center and two HIV-positive speakers. There was also a condom mosaic that I'm hoping all of you had the chance to see. While this was the first attempt at an HIV/AIDS

Awareness Week, PRIDE and the other organizations involved hope that next year's events will flourish.

### A Night of Poetry

One of the more recent, and maybe the most successful, of PRIDE's programming took place on February 17th. In the Calvin-Durand Hall (better known

to students as 'the Wood Lounge') over 100 students came to a poetry reading sponsored by PRIDE. There were several aspects of the event that made it special: two students reading their own poetry and a fledgling organization administering refreshments – but the main event was a poet popular

in the GLBT community, Andrea Gibson. Not only did this event draw in students, but it also attracted citizens from around Chicagoland. Seeing the success of this event has inspired PRIDE to host more poetry slams in the future.

### Midwestern Bisexual Lesbian Gay Trans Ally College Conference

Members of the executive board of PRIDE attended MBLGTACC in Michigan recently, and to our happy surprise, Lake Forest College was named the institution with the most and best quality of programming among the schools in the Illinois Caucus. We were also very happy to offer suggestions to other schools in Illinois to better their own programming. We also hope that in the future we will be able to involve these colleges in the programming we host.

PRIDE has seen exponential improvement in the last year alone. The organization has had tremendous support from many parties, including the Office of Intercultural Relations, the Mohr Student Center Committee, the Mojekwu Fund, the English Department, and Student Government. We also could not have had such successful programming without our senior executive board members, Caitlyn Pickens and Sarah Brusig, to whom we are so thankful for the success of the programming this year. We hope that in the coming years we will have the opportunity to broaden the activities of our organization and show the Lake Forest College community that we have something for everyone – whether you're queer or not.



Photo courtesy of Ariel Magidson

Andrea Gibson recites a poem in the PRIDE sponsored Night of Poetry.

we also hope to make it as diverse as possible. We have opened our community to people of various sexual

transgender community were displayed. We also had artwork displayed in the Simpson Balcony by

“Members of the executive board of PRIDE attended MLLGTACC in Michigan recently, and to our happy surprise, Lake Forest College was named the instituion with the best quality of programing among the Illinios caucus. - Simone Perry '14”

orientations, but there has been little said about sexual identity. Another series of programming, the First Annual "Transgender Awareness Week", was developed to raise the awareness of the transgender community and the issues that exist within it. This year, we had speakers come from

a transgender artist from Colorado. The highlight of Transgender Awareness Week, however, was the performance given by the Cliks, who's lead vocalist, LucasSilveira, is transgender Female-to-Male. Afterward, he led a talk with members of the audience on being a member of the

## Upcoming Events

3/ 24 Deadline for Collage submissions  
3/24 8:00am Neuroscience program annual Chicago conference trip  
3/24 11:00am 3rd Annual "Iron Chef" Competition  
3/24 2:30pm NCCP  
3/24 6:00pm YOGA Group  
3/24 7:00pm Student Senate  
3/24 7:30pm Literary Festival keynote event featuring John Waters  
3/25 Chicago Zine Fest  
3/25 4:30pm ZUMBA!  
3/25 7:30pm Three Sisters Performance  
3/26 1:30pm Three Sisters Performance  
3/26 3:00pm Lake Forest College: Men's Tennis vs. Ripon  
3/26 7:30pm Three Sisters Performance  
3/26 10:00pm Backstage Pass  
3/27 1:00pm Lake Forest College: Softball vs. Elmhurst  
3/27 3:00pm Lake Forest College: Softball vs. Elmhurst  
3/27 7:00pm Delta Gamma weekly meeting  
3/26 7:30pm Serious Singing Senior Vocal Recital  
3/27 8:00pm Garrick Players meeting  
3/28 12:00pm Hillel meeting  
3/28 12:00pm Roberts Spring Cleaning  
3/28 4:00pm The Liberal Arts and a Career in Finance  
3/28 4:00pm Rob Mermin presents "The Silent Language of the Soul"  
3/28 4:15pm LEAP meeting  
3/28 4:30pm MSA meeting  
3/28 5:30pm SAACS meeting  
3/28 6:00pm Model UN meeting  
3/29 12:00pm Active Minds Meeting



## News

### MSA's Awareness Week

**BRITTNEY PULLER**  
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This past week, the Muslim Student Association (MSA) held their annual awareness week that aimed to promote "alwan min thqafatina", or the "colors of our culture". Many of the events held by MSA sought to raise awareness of Muslim culture and issues on both an American and global scale. The "Colors of Our Culture" week began on Monday with a food-sampling event that allowed students to try various foods from Muslim-populated countries. The foods ranged from Italian chocolate cookies and French pastries to Arab dates and Turkish Delight.

On Tuesday night, MSA's annual "Spa Night" was held in the Skybox, offering manicures, eyebrow threading, and henna to students. Craft Day was held on Wednesday, which allowed students to experience Muslim culture through pottery painting,

mosaic making, and name writing in Arabic and Urdu. Amina Sharif from the Council on American-Islamic Relations in Chicago was MSA's and Ally's guest speaker on Thursday. Sharif discussed the American Muslim community's struggle for civil rights and spoke about available internship positions at CAIR. Friday was MSA's comedy night, hosting comedian Mo Amer from "Allah Made Me Funny" in the Mohr Student Center. Amer addressed controversial Muslim issues in his act with humor, breaking many stereotypes concerning female oppression, immigration, and polygamy. Through the diverse activities held this past week, Lake Forest students were truly able to experience the many colors and strains of Muslim culture.

MSA holds weekly meetings in the Skybox every Monday from 4:30-5:30 PM. All are welcome.

*Editors' Note:* Brittney Puller is on the Executive Board for MSA.

### Alpha Phi Love Shack: New tradition on campus

**KRISTEN BRAUN**  
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Tuesday March 1<sup>st</sup> was Alpha Phi's first annual Love Shack event. Whether you heard about it on Facebook, saw the Youtube video, were heckled outside the Caf, or just went to support a friend, our campus community had a strong showing at this new event. The contestants were selected via nomination and subsequent popular vote outside the Cafeteria. Next, donations were

taken as votes for the categories of Most Eligible Bachelor, Bachelorette, and Cutest Couple. Some of the improvised questions asked at the event included "If you could be a Disney character who would it be?" and

"Who is your biggest LFC crush?"; these questions provided interesting and crowd-pleasing responses. The second part of the show was a face-off of your favorite Lake Forest couples. There were two rounds and

\$80 donated in their name. The Most Eligible Bachelor crown was won by Riaz Hoveydai '13 and Most Eligible Bachelorette was won by Mellissa Goosmann '14. All proceeds from the event will go to the Alpha Phi

looking to improve for next year so everyone be on the lookout for Love Shack number 2012! Coming to campus next school year!

*Editors' Note:* Kristen Braun is the Vice President



Photo courtesy of Candace Greytak

*The ladies of Alpha Phi ready for the event.*

a final faceoff between the winners. After a close game Casey James and Cecilia Hayne '11 proved to know the most random facts about each other. They were well-rewarded for the night, winning the title of Cutest Couple as well with over

Foundation, which supports women's cardiac care. The Foundation uses this money towards grants for research regarding women's heart health as well as education to teach people how to be heart healthy. Alpha Phi is excited about our success and are

of Marketing for Alpha Phi, the nationally recognized sorority that sponsored the Love Shack event. Alpha Phi was founded in 1872 at Syracuse University and now has 140 collegiate chapters nationwide.

## Campus Watch: Toga Style



Date & Time Reported 3/5/2011  
11:36:35 PM  
Location HARLAN HALL  
Offense CONDUCT / RULE VIOLATION  
Incident DRINKING GAME VIOLATION  
Disposition CLEARED W/NOTIFICATION

Date & Time Reported 3/19/2011  
10:15:23 PM  
Location LOIS DURAND HALL  
Offense CONDUCT / RULE VIOLATION  
Incident MULTIPLE VIOLATIONS  
Disposition CLEARED W/NOTIFICATION

Date & Time Reported 3/20/2011  
1:18:03 AM  
Location SOUTH CAMPUS  
Offense CONDUCT / RULE VIOLATION  
Incident IMPROPER HOSTING  
Disposition CLEARED W/NO FURTHER ACTION

Date & Time Reported 3/20/2011  
1:18:28 AM  
Location STUDENT CNTR  
Offense RULE VIOLATION  
Incident VIOLATION OF NO CONTACT ORDER  
Disposition CLEARED W/NO FURTHER ACTION

Date & Time Reported 3/20/2011  
4:04:51 AM  
Location STUDENT CNTR  
Offense LIQUOR LAW VIOLATION - REFERRAL  
Incident UNDERAGE CONSUMPTION  
Disposition CLEARED W/NO FURTHER ACTION

Date & Time Reported 3/20/2011  
5:08:25 AM  
Location HARLAN HALL  
Offense DAMAGE TO PROPERTY - CRIMINAL/VANDALISM  
Incident BROKEN WINDOW REPORTED  
Disposition CLEARED W/NOTIFICATION



## Features

# CONCERT REVIEW: Flogging Molly celebrates Irish heritage with raucous performance

KATIE MCLAIN  
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Some people are not built for mosh pits. I, unfortunately, learned this the hard way when I saw Flogging Molly perform at the Congress Theater on Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. Flogging Molly's music is technically classified as "Irish punk," which means that it's loud, fast, and dripping with unabashed Irish pride. So what better place to see them perform than in Chicago on the weekend before St. Patrick's Day?

Seating was on a first-come, first-serve, standing-room-only basis which gave the dedicated moshers enough room to inflict damage on the rest of the concertgoers. My friends and I, however, underestimated the potential

extent of this damage and chose spots right up against the front barrier. This made us prime targets for a creepy guy who made it his mission to buy Irish car bombs for my friends and me. I, being without my at-home roofie detection kit, refused.

And then, Flogging Molly took the stage. Holy sh\*\*. My friends and I struggled through two and a half songs in the mosh pit, trying desperately not to fall into the swarm of thrashing bodies or get crushed up against the barrier.

In the middle of all this, a glowering behemoth of a man tried to forcibly fondle a woman standing next to us. She turned around and punched him in the mouth. The man lunged for her throat as blood dripped from his lip (no, I am not making this up), and we knew that

our time in the mosh pit was over. We tried to watch the concert from the sidelines, but we were still in prime creeper territory, so we eventually snuck to the back of the theater, where we were safe from the groping hands of a thousand drunk Irishmen.

The point of this digression is to admit that I don't remember much about the first half of the concert, so I won't be able to give a detailed breakdown of the song list. What was unmistakable, though, was the sheer enthusiasm of the performance. Lead singer, Dave King, is fast approaching fifty, but that night he played with the exuberance and passion of a man half his age. Songs like "Drunken Lullabies" and "The Worst Day Since Yesterday" had the audience screaming and spilling their cans of Guinness, and the foot-stomping rowdiness of "Requiem For a Dying Song" and "Devil's Dance Floor" could have put any back-alley Irish pub to shame.

Flogging Molly is not just a knock-out, barroom-brawl type of band; they also demonstrate a keen political intelligence and a poetic sense very rarely found in modern music. The final song of their main set, "What's Left of the Flag," for example, spewed forth anger and national pride with lyrics like "In its place there grew / An angry festered wound / Full of hatred and remorse," while a giant Irish flag projected onto the backdrop. I, myself, am far-removed from my Irish ancestry, but even I felt a stirring of Celtic rebellion as I watched that flag fly above the stage.

The encore, however,



Photo courtesy of Adrienne Peters

*Flogging Molly performs, while a drunken group of fans thrash around offscreen.*

was the best part of the concert, partially because I was familiar with all three of the songs. "Float," the first song of the encore, demonstrated Flogging Molly's more melodic capabilities, although I think the song's instrumental subtleties hold up better on the album than they do

a doubt, one of their wildest. For a second, I wished I was back in the mosh pit, because a song as frenzied and loud as "The Seven Deadly Sins" demands throat-ripping screams and full-body bruises. But alas, I was not brave enough to venture back into the crowd.

of Home and Float, but I had only passively listened to Swagger and Drunken Lullabies, and since a lot of their music sounds similar, I had a difficult time determining which song was which.

I really wish I wasn't so fragile, because the savage part of my brain really wanted to withstand the suffocation and the cracked ribs of the mosh pit. I suppose that makes me a wimp, but this concert proved that even the wimps can appreciate Flogging Molly's infectious Irish charm. We just have to appreciate it from the sidelines.

Rating: 8/10

“The foot-stomping rowdiness of “Requiem For a Dying Song” and “Devil’s Dance Floor” could have put any back-alley Irish pub to shame.”

live. “Tobacco Island,” a blistering recollection of the Irish’s enslavement in 1659, brought the collective energy back up just in time for “The Seven Deadly Sins,” which is arguably Flogging Molly’s most well-known song, and is, without

As infectious as the music was, however, I felt that the concert was geared more towards the hardcore fans than the casual listeners. At the time, I fell somewhere in between – I was very familiar with their later albums, *Within a Mile*

The 7th Annual Green 17 Tour

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2/13 . TAMPA, FL . RITZ YBOR	3/5 . NASHVILLE, TN . WAR MEMORIAL AUD
2/14 . ATLANTA, GA . TABERNACLE	3/7 . MINNEAPOLIS, MN . FIRST AVENUE
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2/17 . MYRTLE BCH, SC . HOUSE OF BLUES	3/10 . INDIANAPOLIS, IN . EGYPTIAN ROOM
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## Features

# A brief plunge into the intense and fascinating sport and cultural event of Irish dance

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Over spring break, I had the opportunity to attend an Irish Dance competition, or Feis (pronounced Fesh), in Lake Geneva. Part sub-cultural convention, larger part intense, overwhelming sporting fest, as a total neophyte I entered looking to learn, to support my girlfriend, and, in part, to be entertained by the crazy.

You may have heard of Irish dance. You may have seen Mike Meyers mocking Michael Flatley and other members of Riverdance on Saturday Night Live, his gut bouncing all the while. You may have friends who tried out the sport in grade school, moving along the spectrum of after school activities. But Irish dance is more than a festival show or the simpler Riverdance show; it is a sport, requiring the utmost skill, training, endurance and strength to compete in solo or team forms, whether the dancers are 8, 30, or a staggered combination of ages.

Six thousand dancers participated in the 2010 World Championships. Total participants in the sport are some thousands more, however this is no million-person affair. But size does not make a sport a sport. Elizabeth McEnroe, a dancer from the Sullivan dance school, justifies Irish dancing's sport qualification. "It takes incredible amounts of strength, stamina, and coordination," she said. Riverdance may give the impression that Irish dance is a collective, synchronized affair at its base, but these group dances, called Ceili dances, are more often seen in shows than competition

where the greatest honor is in solo dancing and the extravagant solo dress (pictured).

Solo performances, especially in competition,

(another confusing Gaelic word meaning festival) that took place at the Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva, perform without any other members of their

we aren't allowed to use our arms, bend our knees, or even dip lower off our toes to gain momentum. Every bit of lift we get has to come purely from the strength of our legs and our core muscles." Routines involve many jumps. Many of these jumps come off of moves like "runs" which propel the dancer across the entire diagonal of the stage. Dancers are expected to leap multiple feet in the air without ever landing flat footed, indeed without once in the routine having more than one foot flat on the ground. Known as going en pointe in ballet, this mode is constant for dancers.

The other aspects of the competition can be just as idiosyncratic. Judges do not hold up placards or state their expectations, and may be judging on smile, adding, at times, an unfortunate beauty pageant stench. More often than not, they are simply looking

for perfect form and execution, which is not much consolation. Dancers must follow the rhythm not of a prerecorded jig or reel, but of a live musician, who, as McEnroe says, may be "simply trying to keep himself awake by the end of the day," adding odd syncopation to keep things interesting. Slower and faster players are the difference between a routine, which is based upon the bars of music not a giant clock, coming in far

under or far greater than the minute thirty expected time.

There is a naturalistic quality to it all that is both endearing and potentially frustrating in its arbitrary state. The pageantry of the event is equally interesting.

Imagine, if you will, a large, well-upholstered hotel usurped by an army of Shirley-Temple-wig-wearing women of all shapes, sizes, and ages navigating its halls. Some simply stroll with expressions of determinations and purpose. Others, seemingly standing still in the hall, suddenly become hazards as they practice routines involving precise jumps and kicks. Vendors come selling wares of gaudy jewelry, glittering make-up, and bouncing wigs—all the tools of the trade.

The appearance is not accidental nor is it weird for the sake of weird. Sure, the wigs are extreme bundles of curling faux hair, like Snooky's do was in a fight with a wild band of hair curlers. Sure, eyes stand out like spotlights of purple hundreds of feet away. Sure crowns to hide the transition between fake and real hair give a vague "Toddlers with Tiaras" appearance. But, behind it all must be tradition and meaning, right? Perhaps, says McEnroe: "The usual story is that Irish Dance competitions grew out of the meeting people would have after church on Sundays in Ireland. They would all be dressed in their Sunday best, with their hair curled. Personally, I think it's mainly because the curls bounce when we jump, which makes it look like we are jumping even higher. The wigs developed

because we got really sick of spending hours the night before a competition or a show putting curlers in, then getting a terrible night's sleep, and spending hours in the morning taking them out," she explained.

The month of March for Irish dancers is not only a minor Feis in Wisconsin, but the venerable and drunken only-day-Americans-recognize-the-existence-of-Ireland St. Patrick's Day, including its requisite parade. On a cloudy yet relatively pleasant March 12<sup>th</sup>, the Sullivan school danced upon a float bedecked with green, white, and orange. The Chicago Parade is one of the brightest spots of public display for the sport regionally, and St. Patrick's Day generally brings Irish dancers out of the woodworks to display their craft to the world.

Although the Sullivan school is a smaller school, consisting of about 50 dancers and run out of the Winnetka Community House, it has sent many dancers to regional, national, and world championships. McEnroe, also a teacher of young dancers age 4 to 8, says that the sport is a real commitment, but is worth the effort.

"You have to be willing to work really, really hard and do it consistently. It takes a lot of dedication and determination... It can definitely be a fun and rewarding experience for everyone on some level, but it does take a certain mindset to become a really good Irish Dancer and to succeed in competition," she said.



Photo courtesy of Andrew Van Herik

*Elizabeth McEnroe in extravagant solo dress worn by Irish dancers*

are arduous affairs. Lasting a mere one minute and thirty seconds, a solo set, increasing in difficulty as dancers progress in levels, is what dancers like McEnroe prepare for in their myriad practice sessions. "Competitions focus on solo dancers pushing the limits of their bodies and their minds to do even harder choreography as perfectly as possible," McEnroe said.

In the set, dancers, at least at the minor Feis

school, but at the same time as another solo dancer. Solo dances are unique to the dancer, making each step and each ordering a trade secret for the dancer and the school. Thus, with but a little anticipated structure, dancers sometimes collide on stage as they concentrate on their precise footwork and remembering complex choreography.

During the solo dance, as McEnroe describes, the following physical hurdles take place: "When we jump,



## Features

# NHL '11 provides true-to-life hockey experience for devoted sports gamers

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Another year, another season, another video game. *NHL '11* is not just another ordinary sports video game though; this production by EA Sports is, in my opinion, the best hockey game I have ever played. It is so realistic and so intense that I actually feel like I am on the ice playing in the game.

As expected with technological enhancements, graphics are supposed to get better each year, but this game outlasts all other hockey video games in more than just graphics. Although

the graphics of this game are second to none, some other new features include the Revolutionary Real-Time Physics Engine, Game Play Enhancements, All-New Broken Sticks, Be a Pro Enhanced, and All-New EASHL Dynasties. The Real-Time Physics Engine has made *NHL '11* the most intense video game ever made, as gamers are now allowed to throw bigger hip checks, make faster dangles and snipe more twine. This feature allows them to play more like their heroes and to make the highlight reel plays they make every day.

One of the other new features the all-new

broken sticks feature. Simply put, this is a huge part of the game that was never included in previous hockey games. I experienced the importance of this development myself while playing on line. The opponent was on a breakaway, went to take a snap shot, and snapped his stick in half. I picked up the puck, headed towards the other end of the ice, and won the game in overtime. Broken sticks cause important plays to happen weekly in the NHL, but it was something that was never experienced in a video game until this year.

Another feature that makes this hockey game

the most realistic out there is the be a pro enhanced mode. This allows hockey diehards to start their careers in the Canadian Junior Leagues and work their way up to the NHL Combine, the NHL Draft, the minor leagues and the "SHOW." It gives gamers their chance to be the best player of all time in their own way.

The final feature that I am going to touch on is the all-new EA Sports Hockey League EASHL Dynasties. This element of the game allows one to win championships online and experience banner raising ceremonies in celebration and recognition of their effort. Through this mode,

the player gets to experience what is like to prep for a playoff run with the all-new practice mode.

Overall there is no better NHL video game than this one right here. This is a must have for anyone, hockey fan or not because it is so intense, enjoyable, and realistic. The game is made for the Xbox 360 and Playstation 3 consoles.

Rating: 9.5/10

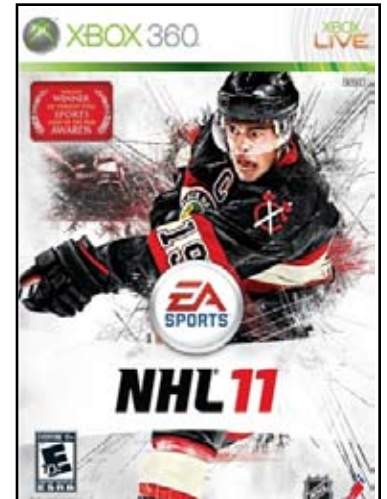


Photo courtesy of gamestyle.com

*Gamers can now experience the thrill of playing like Jonathan Toews and other NHL superstars.*

## Dominicans celebrate cultural independence day

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For many Lake Forest College students, February 27th was just another day of studying before Spring Break. However, this day marked the 167<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Dominican Republic's independence from Haiti. February 27, 1844, the island of Hispaniola became a republic after 22 years of Haitian occupation.

To begin with historical background, Haitian General Jean Pierre Boyer arrived to the city of Santo Domingo (today's capital) on February 9, 1822 accompanied by an army of 12,000 men. He successfully occupied the eastern part of the island Hispaniola declaring the Dominicans

forever governed by the Haitians. What were the Haitian army's reasons for occupation? In simple terms, (1) to defend Haitian independence won in 1804 from foreign intervention, and (2) to expand Haitian territory for economic purposes. Under the Boyer regime, slavery was abolished; he implemented agrarian reforms, and organized the military.

Ideals of independence do not usually float out of thin air. An organization known as the Trinitarios (Trinitarians) initiated a conspiracy movement against the Haitian invaders to achieve independence. The trinitarios, led by the founding fathers, Juan Pablo Duarte, Francisco del Rosario Sánchez, and Matías Ramón Mella, along with other young Dominican idealists in the 1830s worked to

organize the people for independence. They were the former Spanish ruling class who felt they lost their political and economic control. In the name of "Peace, Union, and Friendship," the trinitarios organized themselves militarily; and spread their ideas and doctrines with a nationalistic appeal.

The trinitarios also created an artistic society called "La Sociedad Dramática" (The Dramatic Society) where people performed theatre to promote ideas of independence. This society played a huge role in expressing the Dominican and Haitian discontent of the regime and awakened the patriotic spirit. On February 27th, 1844, the trinitarios proclaimed the birth of the Dominican Republic under the slogan "Dios, Patria y Libertad"

(God, Homeland, and Liberty).

The legacy of Dominican Independence brought to life not only a new nation, but extended challenges. As a result of the proclamation, the First Republic was initiated. Independence, however, was only the first step to the formation of a "Free State." The Central Governing Board was established with Francisco del Rosario Sánchez as the first president of the republic. Immediate Haitian resistance was met moving through the south to face the Dominicans. The Haitian military attacked the southern province of Azua, the Northern provinces in el Cibao and attempted to occupy the central province of Santiago. Eventually the Haitian military was defeated.

Unfortunately, the

Dominican Republic would carry the same fate of many Latin American countries after their independence. The First Republic as the rest of Dominican politics after 1861 would be ruled by "caudillos" (strongmen) upholding dictatorial and despotic governments. In addition, the independence created national pride, but opened a wound of racial pride. The independence period on a racial standpoint was arguably the beginning of the polarizing and bloody legacy of Dominican-Haitian relations that has lasted till the present day. Of course that is an article for another day.

One may ask, what is there to celebrate? Independences from all countries (including our very own United States) experienced great levels of patriotism, contention, challenges and

contradictions. There is much to commemorate, but nothing to celebrate. Then again, what person would be brave enough to challenge the Independence Day of a native Dominican or even a Dominican New Yorker?

Traditionally, Dominicans have used this holiday to join the celebration at a parade or have a party in Upper-Manhattan over the hot summers celebrating Dominican culture. But a lesson to all muckrakers: Do not preach historical intricacies to anyone celebrating their nation's independence until the celebration is over. That may last for days. In the meantime, I'll grab a delicious pastelito and take a shot of Mamajauna and leave the historical debate for another day.



## Opinions

### Feeling homesick during spring break

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Since elementary school, those two words have symbolized weeks of laying on the beaches of Florida, resulting in sun burns and peeling skin. The words always meant that the school year was finally coming to an end and that I could exchange my tights, boots, and coats for shorts, sundresses, and sandals.

This year, however, my previous associations

excited for the nine days ahead of me. After a fabulous dinner with my parents, I jumped onto the couch, ready to watch a never-ending stream of trashy reality shows. I was in heaven.

However, two hours later, I was over it. I yearned for mozzarella sticks and the musty couches in the Wood Lounge. I missed the aroma of spoiled milk that never fails to greet me at my door. I was annoyed at Southern accents, and longed for the hard 'ohhh' of Midwesterners.

“*This year, however, my previous associations with spring break were shot down. The calm water and raging sun of Seaside, Florida was replaced with my dingy hometown of Cumming, Georgia.*”

with Spring Break were shot down. The calm water and raging sun of Seaside, Florida was replaced with my dingy hometown of Cumming, Georgia, (Not to mention that winter is still going strong.)

I was excited to go home, though, despite the change of tradition. I looked forward to my queen-sized bed and clean shower. I couldn't wait to have something for dinner besides a wrap and ice cream, and I was ecstatic that I would have no pressure to actually accomplish anything. All I had to do was lay on the couch and watch *Say Yes to the Dress* marathons... This sounded like absolute bliss.

I landed in Georgia

### The bigger picture of life after college

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Sometimes I feel a little stressed. During the last semester at college, there were times when I felt completely overwhelmed with the amount of work I had to do. In fact, when Christmas break rolled around, I felt exhausted. I had never been more thankful for a break before then. But this semester has been vastly different from last fall, even probably from all my semesters thus far spent at Lake Forest College. What I want to write about then is the overdue lesson I feel I've finally learned, a lesson that took me on and a half years too long as a college student to figure out: that whatever happens, it's not the end of the world.

Now, don't write off that comment as being too obvious to be worthy of consideration. I know you know that there is someone somewhere who has things worse off than you do. I'm not writing to say that. (I know those words do nothing but exasperate the person hearing them.) I actually just want to spread an outlook I wish I would have gained sooner.

See, last year, when I was feeling overwhelmed, I failed to let myself see the bigger picture. I was caught up in how pressing things were at that moment in time. I was so caught up, that I failed to see that even in my own life, the place I was at wasn't really that important. The time in my life spent stressed because of tests, a class kicking my ass, or any other drama, wasn't really going to have any lasting impact on me. I was worried, perhaps justifiably. But I finally realized this semes-

ter that what I was worried about was not the end of my world as I knew it. No matter how I did on a quiz, test, or homework assignment; no matter how confused I felt about different friends or family; no matter how often I made myself loose sleep at night, my world would still continue to spin. I saw that ten years from now, when I have a job in some place I don't yet know, how I did on one test or quiz isn't going to really matter.

In fact, so much of what we all let put us in bad moods every day won't really add up to much of anything in all the days we have in our lives. It's easy for us college students to feel we have the weight of the world crushing down, especially when midterms and finals come. We might feel that there is no way we can possibly get everything done. But, in fact, we will finish things, we always have finished them in the past, thousands have finished them before us, and these semesters are really only going to make up four years of our much longer lives.

As I've kept this realization in mind this semester, I've found myself less stressed, and my classes more enjoyable. It's not that classes don't matter; they're why we came to Lake Forest. But if we keep in mind that there is always going to be another day, another break, and another time in our lives beyond our semesters at LFC, we can all handle our responsibilities here more contentedly. Things don't always go the way we want them to, but things do always come and go. The stress we're feeling now will pass, and since this is just a step toward our future lives, we might as well learn to enjoy it for what it is: just a chapter in our lives.

### LFC seniors learning to give back in 2011

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As I've grown older over the past four years, I've started recently to think a lot more about the people around me. It's not easy when you're busy ninety-nine percent of the time just trying to figure out who the hell you are yourself. But eventually we will all have that under control and be able to turn outward a little bit.

I hope I manage that sooner rather than later, but it doesn't look too great right now. Those irritating deep thoughts will screw you up and keep you up. Finding

“*The College has given all of us so much that we don't realize.*”

an escape from all of that thought is always a fantastic thing, and I hope you were all able to have that break over spring break like I did. As we sat on the beach and I listened to the waves and laughs in the distance, I truthfully said “Nothing,” in response to the question, “Whatcha thinking about?” for the first time in a long time.

Despite this inwardness, I do realize that my time left at Lake Forest College is very limited these days. Whatever I want to accomplish should have been started six months ago, and I just have to hope that my goals and ideas are furthered on by those who remain here for the next four years (and the next and the next).

The College has given all of us so much that we don't realize. We've all developed a bit of a love-hate relationship with it by now, and I think it's normal. But

the ability to develop that relationship and the freedom you may have had to be irritated with certain things that went on in our four years here was enabled by the College itself!

One thing I've written about that has always driven me crazy here is how we sometimes all get angry about something before we learn very much about it. I'd like to make the case for the Class of 2011 Senior Gift.

The Senior Steering Committee decided after much deliberation and requests for suggestions and attendance to make our Class Gift a scholarship to be awarded to one rising senior for the upcoming school year. We've done

this because we decided to give back, mostly because all of us have received one type of financial aid or another while here at LFC. But we've also done this because graduating from college means joining the real world (eventually) and the beginning of the responsibility to give back, a responsibility that comes with receiving a regular paycheck.

I'm not going to blather about responsibility, but I do think we have a unique opportunity to give a little back in a way that is salient for all of us. So dig deep, guys, and give whatever you can. Every five bucks is helpful, and we're already on pace to outdo most of the classes in the last thirty years! Hopefully we can establish a great tradition (try and beat us, Class of 2012!) and we can leave one more mark on the College from our truly incredible class!



## Opinions

# Writing in defence of National Public Radio and its delivery of the unbiased facts

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College is kind of about learning. We learn about our majors and minors and club activities, but we also learn about our friends and ourselves.

With the House recently voting to cut funding for National Public Radio (NPR), I thought it would be nice to trace just how much knowledge I've gleaned from sources like NPR of late, and why NPR's journalistic methods are so impressive-- at least to me. What I hope to show is that the worth of a publicly funded organization cannot be reduced to some inflammatory words from one of

its members or to a false summary of its bias.

Here are some recently broadcasted stories on NPR.

Source: *This American Life* Podcast, played on NPR

**Story:** In the 1950s, the show "This is your Life" surprised people with an often blunt but always patriotic and potentially uplifting tale of their lives, including the story of a Japanese man who survived the bombing of Hiroshima. A man who is, now, on the show, introduced to the pilot who dropped the bomb.

**Story:** "Ta'arof" is a Persian tradition whereby people exchange polite gestures to an extent that seems extreme and unwieldy to those unaccustomed to the culture. Upon arrival at a house, you may be offered fresh fruit and tea, even if the person you are visiting does not want you to be there or want you to eat her fruit or

drink her tea. You should reject this offer to your utmost even if you would like some food and drink. She will persist. In the end, you will likely end up accepting, but only a small orange grudgingly.

**Story:** The tale of a translator who was instrumental in U.S. intelligence during the early years of the Iraq war. A housewife before hand, soldiers and informants alike connected to her good natured, caring demeanor. Yet she struggled to focus on the domestic life when on leave, with informants calling her at home as she cooked. And she strug-

These examples do little to confront certain attacks on NPR. Is its programming generally heady and intellectual? Yes. NPR goes deep. While it's award winning news program *All Things Considered* does not have the same thematic format as *This American Life* or *On the Media*, it does contain ample debate and discussion of the news at hand rather than sound bites or angry diatribes. NPR, like PBS, ABC, NBC, or CBS, is a mainstream news source. It does not fill its line up with pontificating opinion shows like Fox News' Hannity, Beck, and O'Reilly, or

etly into my ear, with calm voices discussing the issue. Disagreements happen and are discussed, but the point is not to show who can look or act the most enraged. Stories about Ta'arof, while not pressing, are broadening and humorous. More pressing stories are handled with the same grace. There is a feeling of trust. There is a feeling that I am not being manipulated for ratings. It's an odd feeling.

NPR has been accused of elitism and bias. The first can only refer to an adherence to ideas that matter. Even fluff like a recent *This American Life* about the po-

tential finding of the original Coca Cola recipe becomes about understanding where personal discov-

ery enters into corporate secrets. It is never surface level thinking. It is critical. It is analytical. It is challenging.

NPR makes me feel as though I have not only learned about something; but that I've learned why other people care about that topic. It does not tell me what to think, what party to believe—how I would define bias—but only that I should think, wherever those thoughts may lead me. I would heartily recommend a listen or a download. You are, after all, taxed for it.

This is all important, especially in the tumultuous times laying before us. On NPR I hear Libyans. On NPR I learn about Japan. On NPR, the news becomes not some block of text or rush of images and noise. The news instead becomes a considered public service, delivered without prejudice toward anything but fact.

I love NPR for this personal approach. I feel as if the story is being fed qui-

“NPR makes me feel as though I have not only learned about something; but that I've learned why other people care about that topic.”

gled further to retire and return home to a life that felt less fulfilling than achieving intelligence breakthroughs.

Source: NPR affiliate WNYC's *On the Media* Podcast

**Story:** What is bias? Through interviews with Pew research heads, an expert on media bias, and a Christian Republican listener and government employee, *On the Media* looks to begin a discussion of whether NPR is biased.

Source: NPR's *On Science* Podcast (culled from various NPR news shows throughout the week)

**Story:** What is going on in Japan? Telling the history of the Japanese reactor, relaying the responses from nuclear scientists, anti-nuclear activists, environmentalists, and such, and explaining what went wrong and what may still occur, this segment looked to educate its listeners on what is and what may be.

## President's Corner

### The benefits of being active complainers as students

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I love complaining... *active* complaining! There, I said it. It's not that I love when people sit around and negatively assess their entire lives; rather, I love the fact that people are conscious of the world around them and are willing to speak up when they feel that something is not right.

Over the course of this semester, Student Government has restructured the way in which we field comments, concerns, complaints, or questions from the student body (and we do love all of them!). After reading and responding to every single one of the responses, I noticed a general trend. Many were about the effects of enrollment growth on our campus (for example: the size of the Caf, the condition of the residence halls, etc.) and even more were about the food. As I sat and read through all of the responses, I realized that we are a campus of passive complainers.

What is a passive complainer? A passive complainer is someone who complains, but indirectly, and without any emphatic vocalization, feeling, or plan to fix the said injustice. They point out something that is wrong, but then after speaking their mind, they simply forget it. Let me start by saying that this is not negative. In fact, in many situations, a passive complainer is probably favored. However, in this situation, or more precisely, in the situations of all students on campus (in which they feel that something is not right), passive complaining just

won't cut it. Passive complaining does not get the job done—to be exact, it doesn't cut to the chase or get to the core of the problem. Instead, it only serves to bring attention and NOT action to the problem.

And now, I leave you with this: please be active complainers! When you have a comment or complaint, please make sure that someone knows about it. AND BE ACTIVE ABOUT IT! Don't just expect that once a complaint is circulating around campus, that the right person will hear the complaint and instantly fix it for you. Instead, follow up on your complaint yourself. Email the appropriate faculty or staff members, talk to the appropriate members of Student Government, or consult with fellow students who may share the same concern or complaint. The bottom line is that you need to take action!

Our job is to help you take action—or, in some cases, to take action for you. BUT you need to follow up, and be active about what you want changed. Feel free to email me at any time at [beckmem@lakeforest.edu](mailto:beckmem@lakeforest.edu) or Sarah at [brunese@lakeforest.edu](mailto:brunese@lakeforest.edu). We will do our best to solve your problem, or place it in the hands of someone who is better equipped to help (such as Jason Micenko, the Food Service Director, for ARAMARK). Also, please feel free to stop by our office hours throughout the week. The schedule can be found on the Student Government [mylakeforest.page](http://mylakeforest.page).

Take action! It is up to us to make the campus better for ourselves and for all future Foresters.



Sports

Spring Trip to Florida Helps Softball Team Realize Potential

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For many varsity teams, the highlights of their season, other than the possibility of winning their respective conferences, come during trips they take, more times than not to locations with a more desirable climate. Unlike the Tennis team or the Handball team, the Softball team did not have to wait for their season to get well underway before heading down to Kissimmee, Florida for the week of Spring Break. From Sunday, March 6 to Friday March, 11, Lake Forest took part in the “Rebel Spring Games” in which they faced numerous teams from around the country. While two of the team’s games (against Ursinus and Thomas More) were rained out, the weather remained pleasant for the most part, giving the Foresters the opportunity to gauge their level of play on the field during an eight game stretch over the course of five days.

The trip got off to a slow start for the Foresters, with the team dropping their first three contests against Webster, Trine, and Mount Union by scores of 7-6, 6-5, and 8-4. The game against Webster University went

to eight innings, leaving room for the sense of satisfaction that the game had gone the distance and the Foresters were as in it as they were at any other point. Amidst the early losses existed numerous areas of reassurance for a team whose season was still in it beginning stages. Webster University improved to 8-2 on the season with their win against the Foresters, giving Lake Forest a feeling of confidence that they can keep pace with just about anybody on their schedule. While the one run losses may appear good on paper, Pitcher Cami Daun noted that they are also the ones “that hurt the most.” Lake Forest also committed a combined seven errors during their three game losing streak, but Daun responded by saying that “we learned that we need to stay aggressive and trust ourselves and each other.” The Foresters responded to their tough start to the trip with a 4-1 win against Aurora University in which Pitcher Kelly Chestnut pitched the entire game, allowing the one run against her in the fifth inning. Alertness on the base paths combined with timely hitting also helped the Foresters get into the win column for the first time.

After another frustrating one run loss, 1-0, in which the Foresters were no-hit against the

14<sup>th</sup> nationally ranked Coast Guard Academy on Wednesday March 9, the team found themselves on the winning side of a one run game later that afternoon against Greensboro College by a final score of 7-6. While the 1-0 loss was a difficult one, highlights included Pitcher Kelly Chestnut holding the opposing Bears to without a hit until the sixth inning. It was a slightly better pitching performance by Coast Guard Academy’s All-American Hailey Feindel, who recorded her seventh no hitter of her career. In the game against Greensboro, the Foresters trailed 4-0 at one point before Sam Ritsema got the team on the board with a bases-clearing grand slam in the third inning, which also happened to be the Foresters first hit of the game. From there the game went into a back and forth sea saw battle, with the Foresters coming out on top, 7-6. Pitcher Cami Daun came on in relief for three innings and earned the victory for the day, allowing just a single and a walk.

The team had an unexpected day off the following day when rain postponed their matchups against Ursinus and Thomas More. The team closed out the trip on Friday March 11 with yet another split, taking the first game of the day against Methodist University

7-4 in eight innings, before falling 12-7 to Albion College. While the trip resulted in an overall record of 3-5 for the Foresters, the team was able to relax and enjoy themselves for a bit as well. “We were able to let go of our jitters” Daun stated, adding that the team is “pumped to play on our own dirt and win conference games” once

back on campus. The Foresters have had two games since their trip, a double-header at Wheaton College last Saturday, resulting in two losses by scores of 9-7 and 6-5, but will soon begin a homestretch that will last them until the end of the month against Carthage, Elmhurst, and the University of Chicago.

As Men’s and Women’s Tennis Coach Jason Box, among other knowledgeable sports enthusiasts have stated, the best teams in any sport, are the ones that peak and

reach their full potential at the right time in the season. They are teams that get off to fast starts, winning the bulk of their games, matches, or meets at the beginning of the season and burn out when it gets to be playoff time as a result of either fatigue, over confidence or some combination of the two. There are others whose seasons are an up and down rollercoaster of

a ride, high one week and low the next, in which their true identity as a team is never really established. Finally there are the teams who start slow, but through a combination of improved play and confidence in one another, make a run when it matters most and wind up coming out on top. The 2011 Softball team hopes that they are that team.



Photo Courtesy of Sean Kavanagh, www.goforesters.com

Aubrey Pendegraft '13, steps up to bat during a recent game.

UPCOMING EVENTS

3/25/11  
Swimming & Diving  
NCAA Championship Meet  
Tennessee  
11:00 AM

3/26/11  
Swimming and Diving  
NCAA Championship Meet  
Tennessee  
11:00 AM

3/27/11  
Softball  
Elmhurst  
Lake Forest  
1:00 PM

Softball  
Elmhurst  
Lake Forest  
3:00 PM

3/29/11  
Softball  
Chicago  
Lake Forest  
3:00 PM

3/30/11  
Softball  
Carthage  
Lake Forest  
(moved from 3/23)  
3:00 PM

Softball  
Carthage  
Lake Forest  
(moved from 3/23)  
5:00 PM

SCOREBOARD

3/19/11  
Softball  
Lake Forest 5  
Wheaton (Ill.) 6

Softball  
Lake Forest 7  
Wheaton (Ill.) 9

Men's Tennis  
Wabash 5  
Lake Forest 4

3/11/11  
Men's Tennis  
Lake Forest 7  
Southwestern (Tex.) 2

Lake Forest 8  
Schreiner 1

Softball  
Lake Forest 7  
Methodist 4



## Sports

# INTRAMURAL SPORTS CHAMPIONS



Photo Courtesy of Brandan Yezek

Winter soccer champions celebrate their victory, holding the game ball with glee.



Photo Courtesy of Brandan Yezek

5v5 Basketball champion Team Sobey indicate their number one status, made up of teammates Sarah Lendy, Danny Carter, Tucker Kass, Austin Sobey, Goeff Sobey, Al Kalinowski, Al Mitchell, Molly Shaw, and Rocky Al-Mutawa.



Photo Courtesy of Brandan Yezek

Winter volleyball champion teammates Amalia DeSardi, Angie Cepeda, and Pete Jansen celebrate the fun they had as a triumphant three person team in a four person competition.

### WORDS OF THE CHAMPIONS

"[AS A THREE PERSON TEAM] BEING ABLE TO WIN WAS EVEN BETTER"

-CHAMPION VOLLEYBALLER AMALIA DESARDI

"[AFTER LOSING] THE 'FUN' ASPECT OF IM" DUE TO OUR FIRST LOSS IN OUR 8TH GAME, EVERYONE ON THE TEAM "DID 'THEIR JOB' TO HELP THE TEAM--OUR SHOOTERS SHOT WELL, REBOUNDERS REBOUNDED--WE DIDN'T HAVE ONE PERSON TO RELY ON BUT EVERYONE BROUGHT THEIR STRENGTHS TO THE TABLE."

"RETURNING TO A "FUN-LOVING ATTITUDE TOWARDS BASKETBALL WAS WHAT ALLOWED US TO BEAT SOME TEAMS THAT WERE VERY TALENTED."

- CHAMPION BASKETBALLER SARAH LENDY